

1. A water conditioner for eliminating scale formation, comprising  
a housing having an inlet, an outlet, and a chamber, having  
a wall, providing fluid communication between the inlet and outlet;  
and

91 a core having a surface, the core being received within the  
chamber, the chamber wall and core surface providing a flow path  
between the inlet and outlet, the core surface consisting essen-  
tially of 40-60% copper, 2-30% zinc, 10-25% nickel, 1-5% tin, 0-  
1.5% iron and 0-1% lead, all percentages by weight,

B <sup>voltage</sup>  
the core surface having the property of increasing the  
~~electrical potential~~ of water flowing over the surface.

92 7. The water conditioner of claim 1 wherein the electrical  
potential is increased to values in the range of 150-300 milli-  
volts.

Remarks

The Official Office Action of December 8, 2000 and the r  
references therein made of record have been carefully considered.  
Applicant has amended claim 1 and attached is a marked up copy.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6 as unpatentable over  
Walker in view of Cassidy based on the following rationale:

Walker discloses (see col. 1 lines 5-38 and col. 7 lines  
9-29) the structure of the water conditioner substantial-